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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1962

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Chief Public Health Inspector)



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE1962 - 1963

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Chairman | ... | ... | ... | Councillor F.R. Bennett. |
| Vice-Chairman. | ... | ... | ... | Councillor H.G. Parker. |
| HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR . | ... | ... | ... | Councillor B.W. Smith. |
| Alderman D. Samuel | ... | ... | ... | Councillor H. Howles. |
| Councillor C.G. Dance . | ... | ... | ... | Councillor R. Oakley. |
| Councillor W.J. Franklin. | ... | ... | ... | Councillor J.S. Perrin. |
| Councillor A.L. Hall... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor H. Purcell. |

Councillor R.A. Ricketts.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B. Bsc.

Public Analyst:

M.M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

Public Health Inspectors.

N. MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.)

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors:

R.A. ROGERS.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1962 and 1961.

| | 1962 | 1961 |
|--|----------|----------|
| Area of District in Acres | 4694 | 4694 |
| Population at Census 1961 | 40,822 | 40,822 |
| Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate | 42,470 | 41,600 |
| No. of inhabited houses, estimated | 13,974 | 13,647 |
| No. of persons per house | 3.04 | 3.12 |
| Rateable Value | £575,464 | £563,427 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate | £2,330 | £2,260 |
| Number of Marriages | 383 | 391 |
| Number of live births | 776 | 712 |
| Number of still births | 12 | 20 |
| Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected) | 18.5 | 17.4 |
| Birth rate for England and Wales (Live) | 18.0 | 17.4 |
| Number of illegitimate births | 43 | 32 |
| No. of deaths under one year of age of these there were illegitimate | 21 | 17 |
| | 3 | 2 |
| INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS | 27 | 23.8 |
| Infantile Mortality for England and Wales | 20.7 | 21.4 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales | 0.35 | 0.33 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) | Nil | Nil |
| Number of deaths | 517 | 534 |
| Death rate (Corrected) | 12.2 | 12.8 |
| Death rate for England and Wales | 11.9 | 12.0 |
| Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions | 46.03 | 26.2 |
| Number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis | 3 | Nil |
| Number of deaths from Cancer | 88 | 91 |
| Number of deaths from Influenza | 1 | 10 |
| Number of deaths from Measles | Nil | 1 |
| Number of deaths from W whooping Cough. | Nil | Nil |

| Year | Live Births | Deaths | Births over Deaths Increase. |
|-------------|-------------|--------|------------------------------|
| 1953 | 562 | 588 | 26 decrea |
| 1954 | 603 | 472 | 131 |
| 1955 | 608 | 458 | 150 |
| 1956 | 610 | 491 | 119 |
| 1957 | 657 | 467 | 190 |
| 1958 | 625 | 487 | 138 |
| 1959 | 648 | 502 | 146 |
| 1960 | 647 | 472 | 175 |
| 1961 | 712 | 534 | 178 |
| 1962 | 776 | 517 | 259 |

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
FOR THE YEAR 1962.

Lloyds Bank Chambers,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

There is an inspiration in mankind which makes him look upwards, and compels him to do something about what he sees. Under this compulsion he has sent a space probe to explore the planet Venus and produced "Telstar", a satellite making possible the transmission of colour television across the Atlantic Ocean.

This same intellectual drive has given him knowledge of how to protect himself against many serious diseases and has shown him the way to a fuller, healthier and probably happier life. Yet, inspite of the cost needed in time and energy to obtain this scientific and medical knowledge, there are some who doubt its validity and even suspect its integrity.

This often causes considerable delay between the discovery of a preventive measure and its useful application by the community. In the past the delay was in applying vaccination, diphtheria and other immunisations and in the eradication of tuberculosis from our milk supplies. Today, the delays are in using effective measures to prevent cigarette lung cancer; delays in cleaning up our atmosphere and our filthy rivers and in ensuring a sufficient amount of fluoride in the water supplies.

By the time these delays have been overcome, and the very measures now so hotly contested have become every day practices, further solutions to other health problems will be debated by a suspicious public - and eventually, in turn, will be accepted and used to the general benefit.

It is, however, well to bear in mind the cost we pay for our tardiness. In 1952, ten years ago, the association between lung cancer and cigarette smoking was clearly shown. Since that date about 195,200 of our people have died of lung cancer. In these years, how many thousands of our children have acquired the cigarette smoking habit and in consequence will die of lung cancer? And still we see everywhere these same cigarettes advertised as being the most desirable things for anyone to buy!

This Report gives details of the Health Department's work throughout the year, but it can only hint at the hours of work put in by all its members before any real measure of progress is accepted (or sometimes rejected) by the town's community.

I thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their interest throughout the year.

I also thank the Chief Public Health Inspector and all members of the Health Department for their cheerful help at all times.

I thank also my colleagues in all other Municipal Departments for their everwilling co-operation.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

POPULATION.

During the last 10 years the Kidderminster Borough population has increased from 37,500 to 42,470.

Five thousand more people means more work required for them, more places in schools, more houses - especially more houses.

HOUSING.

To meet the housing demand there are now 13,974 houses compared with 10,959 ten years ago.

During 1962 the Corporation completed 51 houses and private enterprise built 295.

This is up to the number of at least 300 new houses required annually, if many families who are existing in very sub-standard houses are to be rehoused in the next 10 years.

The Housing Officer reports as follows:-

Houses Built.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Number of houses built by private enterprise | ... | ... | 295 |
| Number of houses built by local authority | ... | ... | 51 |
| Total number of Corporation Houses in the Borough | | | |
| at 31st December, 1962 | ... | ... | 3593 |
| Total number of applicants on housing waiting list | | | |
| at 1st January, 1962 | ... | ... | 840 |
| Total number of applicants on housing waiting list | | | |
| at 31st December, 1962 | ... | ... | 1165 |

The total number of Corporation houses completed and occupied during 1962 was 51 in the following types:-

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| 3 bedroom houses | ... | 30 |
| 1 bedroom bungalows. | ... | 21 |
| No. of houses vacated and re-let during 1962 | ... | 118 |
| No. of Aged Persons' Bungalows built up to | | |
| 31st December, 1962 | ... | 182 |
| No. of Aged Persons' Bungalows with Warden | ... | 97 |

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 20/10d. for pre-war Aged Persons' Bungalows, to 52/9d. for a 5 bedroomed post-war house.

The Wardens for the bungalows at Birchen Coppice Estate, and on Phase 111 of Habberley Estate continued to give a most valuable service.

Since 1952 there have been 285 unfit houses demolished and Closing Orders have been made on 84 others. With so many sub-standard houses still occupied and with the extensive slum clearance programme to be carried through, every effort will be needed to build sufficient houses as soon as possible, at the rate of at least 300 per year (Public and Private Enterprise combined.)

The Welfare Officer continues to give a most valuable service which is even more important as unfit houses are replaced by new property.

NEW INDUSTRIES.

In addition to the old established and world famous Kidderminster Carpet Industry, there are numerous other manufacturing concerns in the Borough - e.g. iron moulding, sheet metal rolling, loom manufacture, sugar refinery, lens makers, scale makers, chemical works etc.,

During the last 10 years other manufacturies have become established - e.g. heavy forging and machinery, metal founders, light metal works and other manufacturing and processing plants, all helping to give employment to an expanding population.

THE AIR WE BREATHE.

All attempts made to establish Smoke Controlled Areas have been turned down by the Borough Council - even for newly developed housing estates. Manufacturers' chimneys are largely under control, with about three exceptions which occasionally darken the sky.

However, none of the 13,500 domestic fires are controlled, a fact well demonstrated by the numerous plumes of thick smoke seen any cold day issuing from private household chimneys. Until these are controlled we shall continue to work, play, breathe and cough out our existence in a smoke fouled atmosphere.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

During the first three months of the year, two outbreaks of Smallpox in this country caused the Health Departments to be exceedingly busy carrying out preventive measures.

Since both these outbreaks were caused by aliens from abroad, there is a clear indication that stricter precautions should be enforced, not only for Smallpox, but for Tuberculosis and possibly other diseases also where people come into this Country from overseas carrying with them the infections prevalent in their own Countries.

Preventive inoculation against six very serious infectious diseases is now so well established that we tend to overlook the benefit it gives to our community.

Those often fatal or seriously crippling diseases are diphtheria, poliomyelitis, smallpox, tuberculosis, tetanus and whooping cough.

Before preventive inoculation was introduced, diphtheria killed nearly 3,000 people annually. In 1962 only 1 died from this disease.

Before poliomyelitis inoculations were introduced, as many as 6,300 cases annually had occurred. In 1962 only 270 were notified.

Before vaccination was used, smallpox attacked the greater part of the population and many thousands died annually. Now if we have a dozen cases with half as many deaths there is a national crisis and the disease is stamped out in weeks.

Thirty years ago tuberculosis killed about 14,000 young people annually. Now, in the age group 15 - 30 year olds, less than 100 die from this disease each year.

Tetanus or Lock Jaw is always a danger following accident or injury but is being prevented by routine inoculation of children.

Whooping Cough was a serious killing and debilitating illness of children before immunisation against it was carried out, but now it has lost much of its danger in immunised children.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES Contd.....

Although these preventive measures are now recognised, as saving thousands of lives and much severe crippling, yet there was great opposition and much delay before they were accepted.

The 'anti-societies' brought out all kinds of strange arguments as to why these measures should not be used, and showered members of local authorities with pamphlets containing dire threats of injury if the doctors were allowed to treat the public with these preventive measures. Luckily for everyone the truth prevailed with the immense benefit of preventive measures that we now enjoy, not however, before many thousands of individuals - not protected - had died due to the delay caused by the 'anti-groups'.

The same 'anti-group' mentality is still operating all over the world and has succeeded in slowing down the adoption of making good the fluoride deficiency in water supplies, thus depriving whole communities of the one simple cheap natural measure which would so greatly improve dental health.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1962.

| Diseases | Total Cases Notified. | Total Deaths. |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | Nil |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 21 |
| Measles | 3 | Nil |
| Poliomyelitis | 1 | Nil |
| Meningitis Infection | 1 | Nil |

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases occurred. 720 immunisations were completed.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

Total number of persons in the Kidderminster Division, who since the inception of the Scheme had been given three injections by the staff of the Divisional Area, at 31st December, 1962 - 18,681.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 17 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. 3 deaths were due to Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS Contd

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the borough every Monday from 1-30 - 4-Op.m. to examine ante-natal patients, patients referred by general practitioners, and other members of the public.

B.C.G. Inoculation was offered to the 13 year old children and was accepted by 87.2%

| Year | Pulmonary | | Non -Pulmonary | | Death Rate (all forms) per 1,000 living. |
|------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------|---|
| | New Cases | Deaths | New Cases | Deaths | |
| 1953 | 24 | 6 | 2 | 1 | .18 |
| 1954 | 19 | 4 | 5 | 1 | .13 |
| 1955 | 34 | 8 | Nil | Nil | .20 |
| 1956 | 46 | 2 | 2 | Nil | .05 |
| 1957 | 29 | 2 | 2 | Nil | .05 |
| 1958 | 17 | 3 | 2 | 1 | .10 |
| 1959 | 16 | 3 | 5 | Nil | .07 |
| 1960 | 21 | 6 | 3 | Nil | .07 |
| 1961 | 9 | Nil | 6 | Nil | - |
| 1962 | 17 | 3 | 1 | Nil | .07 |

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

| | | |
|-------------|-----|----|
| Cancer ... | ... | 1 |
| Bugs ... | ... | 23 |
| Ants ... | ... | 2 |
| Cockroaches | ... | 3 |
| Beetles .. | ... | 1 |

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

Many services are provided and administered directly by the Local Health Authority (which in this area is the Worcestershire County Council).

These services include:-

1. Care of mothers and young children.
2. Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. District Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Care of old people.
7. Prevention of illness, care and After-care.
8. Home Helps.
9. Mental Health.
10. Ambulance Services.

1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

There are six Infant Welfare Clinics in the Borough situated at Birchen Coppice, Broadwaters, Comberton Estate, Coventry Street Welfare Centre, Foley Park and Franche. These centres have a doctor and a health visitor in regular attendance and a group of voluntary workers who greatly assist in the running of the centres.

2. MIDWIFERY.

There are five midwives for domiciliary midwifery and one Maternity Home in the Borough. There is one Ante-natal Clinic at Stanmore Nurses Home and one at the Coventry Street Welfare Centre each week.

3. HEALTH VISITING.

The Borough is divided into six areas - each of which has a Health Visitor, who attends to infants and toddlers and the Clinic and schools in her district.

4. DISTRICT NURSING.

To minister to the sick in their homes there are three District Nurses administered through "Stanmore" Nurses Home.

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination and immunisations against Smallpox, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Tuberculosis are offered free of charge at the Welfare Centres and at School Clinics and in the Schools.

6. CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

Meals on Wheels. This most valuable service is organised entirely by the Kidderminster section of the W.V.S. It enables 100 old people to receive two hot mid-day meals per week delivered at their own homes. Throughout the year 8,465 meals were delivered. This has required the co-operation of the Borough Council, the County Council, many voluntary helpers and the W.V.S.

The Borough Council provide and service a van and also the kitchen and cooking facilities, as well as contribute ninepence per meal.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE Contd.....Meals on Wheels.

The County Council pay sixpence per meal.

There is a rota of 36 devoted voluntary women drivers who take the meals round regularly. The meals are delivered on Monday and Thursday, or Tuesday and Friday to each old person who pays one shilling per meal.

Darby and Joan Clubs. There are five Darby and Joan Clubs in the town with a membership of 250. These Clubs are organised and managed by the W.V.S. with many voluntary helpers. Two clubs open on Tuesdays 2-Op.m. to 5-o'clock and three on Wednesdays 2-Op.m. to 5-0'clock. Afternoon tea is provided for a nominal charge.

7. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

This service is carried out by County and District Social Welfare Officers and staff; with special instructors for the blind and the deaf. The County also provides Homes for the Old and/or Infirm Persons and assists the County Districts with their wardens, in groups of old people's bungalows.

The County Council provides convalescence for cases referred by medical practitioners. Medical comforts are provided by the County Council in a scheme organised by the Red Cross Society.

Tuberculosis cases and those suffering from chronic chest conditions have a special committee and group of workers to help them in every way practicable.

8. HOME HELP SERVICE.

This very important service is financed by the County Council, organised by the W.V.S. and under the direct administration of Mrs. Moule who works extremely hard and on a voluntary basis. The amount of help given is only limited by the amount of money allotted to this service. Each passing year makes it more difficult to meet the very real demands for home helps, particularly in this district where there are more births - and more people living to old age than ever before.

Home Helps were of service in the following instances:-

| Reason for Help. | | | | | No. of Cases visited by Home Helps. |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Maternity | ... | ... | ... | ... | 139 |
| Tuberculosis | .. | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Chronic Sick | .. | ... | ... | ... | 826 |
| Others | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92 |

9. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The County administer this important service through a Mental Health Administrative Officer and staff of twelve, including eleven Mental Welfare Officers.

Five Training Centres in the County provide accommodation for those incapable of being taught in any type of school.

10. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These services are administered and controlled through the Radio Control Centre at Worcester. There are normally eight vehicles stationed at the Ambulance Station, Stourport Road, Kidderminster, with 10 whole-time drivers in attendance. There are also a Hospital Car Service, a Red Cross Ambulance and a St. John's Ambulance available in Kidderminster.

WHAT RESULTS ARE WE GETTING FROM OUR SERVICES?

There is a great disappointment in the number of babies who died in their first year after birth. 21 babies died before reaching the age of one year, giving the depressing Infant Mortality Rate of 27 - the highest for some years.

The deaths of the 21 infants were assigned to the following causes:-

| <u>Cause of Deaths.</u> | <u>Number of Deaths.</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Congenital Defects | 8 |
| Infections | 2 |
| Prematurity | 7 |
| Accidents | 3 |
| Doubtful | 1 |

18 died age 4 weeks or under and 3 were over 4 weeks old.

We know that the Infant Mortality Rate is much less in some areas. We can only hope that everyone concerned with mothers and children will take even more trouble to see that everything is as right as possible, all the time, with expectant mothers and newborn babies.

DEATHS.

The chief cause of death in the Borough has been due to degeneration of the heart and vascular system. This is a natural process over which so far we have had little control.

There were 74 deaths due to lung damage, i.e. bronchitis, pneumonia and lung cancer. Contributory factors to lung damage are often man-made, e.g. cigarette smoke and the products of our coal fires.

Control of domestic coal fires has been turned down in this district.

CIGARETTE SMOKING, continues apparently without any diminution. Two newspaper headlines are illuminating on this subject:-

In January 1963 -

"Cigarette sales back to pre-scare levels"

"Cigarette manufacturers estimate that smoking has at last beaten the cancer warnings"

In April 1963 -

"Lung cancer figures up again"

"The Ministry of Health said that 26,383 people died of lung cancer in 1962, 1095 more than in 1961."

CIGARETTE SMOKING Contd

He said, "But for the smoking of cigarettes a particularly horrible form of death would not exist as it does today!"

Warning posters have been displayed throughout the country - but refused by advertising agents.

Lectures and films have been given.

We know that if present smoking habits continue, about 700 of our sons now in the Worcestershire schools will probably die prematurely from cigarette produced lung cancer.

How many more of our people must die of lung cancer before our leaders take the most essential action of stopping all cigarette advertisements.

WATER.

The Borough's water supply has remained unaltered, being supplied partly by the two borholes in the Borough and partly by water from the Birmingham Elan Aqueduct.

The administration was carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department until the 31st October, when it was taken over by the North West Worcestershire Water Board.

Samples taken regularly by the Health Department have shown the water to be of good quality both chemically and bacteriologically. There is a deficiency of fluoride for the optimum development and preservation of teeth.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Apart from personal interviews on all sorts of health topics, members of the Health Department have given special emphasis to -

1. Cleanliness in food handling.
2. Dangers of cigarette smoking.
3. Value of clean atmosphere.
4. The necessity for an adequate amount of fluoride in drinking water.

Much of our teaching falls on stony ground; much of it is choked by the weeds of false promises; but some of it is accepted, usually to the benefit of those wise enough to put it into practice.

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

| Cause of Death | Male. | Female. |
|--|-------|---------|
| 1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System. | 2 | 1 |
| 2. Other forms of Tuberculosis. | Nil | Nil |
| 3. Syphilitic Diseases. | Nil | Nil |
| 4. Diphtheria. | Nil | Nil |
| 5. Whooping Cough. | Nil | Nil |
| 6. Meningococcal Infections. | Nil | Nil |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis. | Nil | Nil |
| 8. Measles. | Nil | Nil |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases. | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach. | 7 | 6 |
| 11. " " Lung, Bronchus. | 13 | 2 |
| 12. " " Breast. | Nil | 8 |
| 13. " " Uterus. | Nil | 2 |
| 14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms. | 26 | 24 |
| 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia. | Nil | 2 |
| 16. Diabetes. | 2 | 2 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System. | 33 | 37 |
| 18. Coronary Disease Angina. | 56 | 37 |
| 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease. | 3 | 1 |
| 20. Other Heart diseases. | 23 | 72 |
| 21. Other Circulatory Diseases. | 6 | 10 |
| 22. Influenza. | 1 | Nil |
| 23. Pneumonia. | 5 | 16 |
| 24. Bronchitis. | 25 | 13 |
| 25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System. | Nil | 3 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum. | 4 | 2 |
| 27. Gastritis and Diarrhoea. | 1 | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis. | 2 | Nil |
| 29. Hyperplasia of Prostate. | 4 | Nil |
| 30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion. | Nil | Nil |
| 31. Congenital Malformations. | 2 | 3 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases. | 19 | 17 |
| 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents. | 4 | 2 |
| 34. All other accidents. | 9 | 5 |
| 35. Suicide. | 1 | 1 |
| 36. Homicide and Operations of War. | Nil | Nil |
| Total: | 249. | 268. |

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1962 are as follows:-

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------|
| Under 1 year ... | ... | 21 |
| Between 1 and 2 years ... | | Nil |
| Between 2 and 5 years ... | | 2 |
| Between 5 and 15 years .. | | 1 |
| Between 15 and 25 years.. | | 4 |
| Between 25 and 45 years . | | 17 |
| Between 45 and 65 years . | | 118 |
| 65 years and upwards ... | | 354. |

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF KIDDERMINSTER RESIDENTS.

238 of the 517 deaths of Kidderminster residents occurred in public institutions.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough can use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital. Specimens for examination have been referred through a Consultant in the Out-Patients' Department.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

| Clinic | Situation and time of Session. | Provided by |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Maternity and Child Welfare Centres | Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Mondays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. St. Oswalds Parish Hall, Broadwaters. Mondays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Birchton Coppice Church Hall - 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Franchise Church Hall, Franchise - Tuesdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Coventry Street Clinic:- Thursdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Wednesdays 2.0 to 4.0p.m. | County Council. |
| Tuberculosis | Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10-30a.m. and 3-Op.m. Thursday 2.0 to 4.0p.m. | Regional Hospital Board |
| Venereal Diseases | Kidderminster General Hospital - Monday 2.0p.m. Thursday - 5.0p.m. | Regional Hospital Board |
| Ante-Natal | Monday Session at Coventry Street Clinic - 2.0 to 4.0p.m. Friday Session at Stanmore Nurses' Home, 2.0 to 4.0p.m. | County Council |
| Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic | Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11-0a.m. | Regional Hospital Board |
| Family Planning Clinic | Coventry Street Clinic - Wednesday 2-0 to 4-Op.m. 1st Tuesday of each month 5-3Op.m. | Family Planning Association |
| Lip Reading Class | Coventry Street Clinic Monday 7-Op.m. to 9-Op.m. | Deaf and Dumb Association (Worcestershire and Herefordshire) |
| Chiropody Service. | Wednesday morning and afternoon. Friday afternoon. | County Council. |

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

It is with pleasure that I present the Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Inspectorate for the year ended 31st December, 1962, coupled with a short Report on the part of Public Cleansing administered by the Department, which deals with the collection and disposal of household refuse and salvage.

The main details of the report, set out in tabular or other form will be found on subsequent pages, but I would mention briefly here one or two items of interest.

The year has been a busy one with such important duties as Housing, Meat and Food Inspection, Refuse Collection, and in particular the disposal of refuse having taken up a deal of the Department's time. However, in face of this as much time as possible has been devoted to the many other duties devolving on the Department.

The daily round in the Department is more often than not far from trivial and many varied problems (which seem to increase) often confront us. A policy of mutual understanding and tolerance all round can be of great help in finding solutions.

Certain staff changes were effected, namely -

- (a) Mr. D. Knight (formerly of Tenbury Rural) was appointed as an Additional Public Health Inspector (This appointment was, in fact, an addition to the Staff.)
- (b) Mrs. J. Heaton was appointed Clerk in the place of Mr. J. Allen who resigned his post in the Department towards the close of 1961.
- (c) Our Pupil Health Inspector commenced his training course in Birmingham in September.

I feel it is my pleasure now to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and Officers of other Departments for much help and support during the past year which indisputedly tends to smooth working and avoids time wasting. To the Inspectorate and Clerical Staff I offer my thanks for loyalty and application to duties.

Yours obediently,

J.B. HINTON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The Borough possesses a compliment of 8 private slaughterhouses, but no municipally owned Public Abattoir and the duty of meat inspection was rigorously pursued during the year.

The 1st of January, 1962, was the day appointed when all slaughterhouses in the Borough had to comply with the relevant regulations regarding construction etc., and subsequent to the carrying out of the necessary works and improvements licences were issued in respect of seven, while the use of two of these was restricted to the slaughtering of small animals only.

The erection of a new privately owned Abattoir was commenced in the early part of the year being completed in September and the required licence issued. The use of this new Abattoir has added in no small measure to the work of meat inspection, the time spent by Inspectors being proportionate to this extra slaughtering.

The following is a synopsis of the year's work:-

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

| Disease | Tons | Cwts | Lbs. | Disease | Cwts | Lbs. |
|---|------|------|------|--|------|------|
| Tuberculosis | 1 | 6 | 34 | Swine Erysipelas | 2 | 16 |
| Cirrhosis, Distomatosis | 1 | 1 | 33 | Injury, Bruising | 2 | 7 |
| Pyogenic Abscesses | 1 | 0 | 101 | Pneumonia | 1 | 74 |
| Hydatid Cysts | | 10 | 78 | Emaciation | 1 | 33 |
| Septicaemia | | 7 | 80 | Oedema | 1 | 30 |
| Strongylosis | | 5 | 17 | Actinobacillosis | 1 | 8 |
| Pleurisy, Peritonitis and Pericarditis | | 5 | 13 | Parasitic Cysts | | 73 |
| Swine Fever | | 4 | 79 | Fatty Infiltration and Degeneration | | 58 |
| Cysticercus Bovis | | 4 | 66 | Jaundice | | 48 |
| Moribund | | 4 | 3 | Actinomycosis | | 32 |
| Necrosis | | 3 | 108 | Melanosis | | 18 |
| Angiomatosis | | 3 | 83 | | | |

Total weight condemned 6 ton. 9 cwt. 84 lbs.

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1264 Tinned Goods. | 16 lbs. Luncheon Meat. |
| 907 lbs. Tinned Ham. | 15 lbs. Margarine. |
| 724 lbs. Miscellaneous Frozen Foods. | 14 lbs. Halibut. |
| 281 Jars and Packets of Food. | 14 lbs. Kippers. |
| 176 lbs. Corned Beef. | 12 lbs. Jellied Veal. |
| 79 lbs. Chopped Pressed Pork. | 12 lbs. Minced Beef. |
| 42 lbs. Ox Tongue. | 7 lbs. Cheese. |
| 40 lbs. Haddock Fillets. | 6 lbs. Corned Mutton. |
| 33 lbs. Marzipan. | 5 lbs. Cooking Fat. |
| 23 lbs. Salt. | 4 lbs. Sausages. |

SUMMARY.

| | T | C | lbs. |
|---|----|----|------|
| Total weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned | 7. | 8. | 85. |
| Total weight (Meat) Condemned | 6. | 9. | 84. |

| <u>CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.</u> | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number killed | 3,371 | 198 | 516 | 17,436 | 4,893 |
| Number inspected | 3,371 | 198 | 516 | 17,333 | 4,893 |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 1 | - | - | 7 | 15 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 395 | 27 | 1 | 313 | 368 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | 11.8 | 13.6 | .2 | 1.8 | 7.8 |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | 225 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | .03 | - | - | - | 4.6 |
| <u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 34 | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis | 1.0 | - | - | - | - |

The table showing the reasons for condemnation of meat and organs is interesting, especially as regards tuberculosis. This disease, for many years a scourge in food animals, is now almost non-existent as is shown by the relatively small amount of 26 cwts. only condemned for this reason.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals must hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for 12 monthly periods and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and able and competent to discharge their duties. No of licences issued - 28.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.Registration of premises - SALE OF ICE-CREAM.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Manufacturers (Heat Treatment) ... | ... | Nil |
| Manufacturers (complete cold mix only-) ... | ... | 1 |
| Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold | | 188 |
| Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold (Does not include Cafes)... | ... | 2 |
| Premises where a Soft Ice Machine is in use | | 1 |
| Wholesale Storage Depot ... | ... | 1 |

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the ice-cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Ice-Cream - Bacteriological Examination.

| No. Submitted | Grades | | | |
|---------------|--------|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10 | 7 | - | 2 | 1 |

3 samples fell into low grades. All were from the same source - a Soft Ice Machine in the Borough. This caused some consternation in the Department and as a result very thorough investigations were made at the source and instructions given regarding the maintenance and cleaning of the machine. After an overhaul and thorough cleansing subsequent samples were satisfactory. This stresses the importance of the strict attention required to be paid to these machines by way of cleaning and sterilising if satisfactory bacteriological results of the products are to be obtained.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS 1925 -1953.

Total number of samples (chemical analysis only) taken during
the year 108

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 52 Milk | 2 Bread | 1 Tinned chicken |
| 12 Pork Sausage | 1 Margarine | 1 Aspirin Tablets |
| 10 Channel Island Milk | 1 Beef Sausage | 1 Cooking Fat |
| 5 Ice-Cream | 1 Honey | 1 Table Jellies |
| 3 Butter | 1 Chopped Ham | 1 Fresh Cream |
| 3 Lemon Curd | 1 Lard | 1 Tinned Cream |
| 2 Pork Pie | 1 Dressed Crab | 1 Evaporated Milk |
| 2 Malt Vinegar | 1 Mincemeat | 1 Sunny Spread |
| 1 Fish Cakes | | 1 Instant Coffee. |

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES NOT GENUINE.

| Sample No. | Sample of | Deficiency or condition | Result, Action etc., |
|------------|--------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1061 | Pork Sausage | 63% Meat Content) | Representations to manufacturers resulted in improvement of meat content up to Analyst's recommended standard. Repeat samples genuine. |
| 1064 | Pork Sausage | 57% Meat Content) | |
| 1065 | Pork Sausage | 58% Meat Content) | |
| 1077 | Pork Sausage | 54% Meat Content) | |
| 1108 | Pork Sausage | 60% Meat Content) | |
| 1114 | Pork Sausage | 60% Meat Content) | |
| 1075 | Milk | 2.6% Extraneous water. | |

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS - OTHER FOODS.

| Commodity | Number of samples taken. |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| Fresh Cream | 3 |
| Sausages | 9 |
| Pork Pie | 7 |

Remarks.

One sample of fresh cream and one sample of pork pie were unsatisfactory but after representations from this Department repeat samples were satisfactory.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

Under the above Regulations, Licences issued on or after 1st January, 1961, will be valid for 5 years from that date and will be renewable for subsequent quinquennial periods.

Number of Licences in force:

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk | - Bottling | 1 |
| | Dealers (prepacked milk) | 15 |
| Pasteurised Milk | - Pasteurising Plants.. | 1 |
| | Dealers (prepacked milk) | 23 |
| Sterilised Milk | - Processing Plants ... | 1 |
| | Dealers (prepacked milk) | 71 |

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Distributors registered (excluding holders of Dealers (prepacked milk) licences only) | 8 |
| Number of Dairy premises registered.. | 5 |

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results.

| Sample | No. | Methylene Blue Test. | | Phosphatase Test. | Turbidity Test |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | | Passed | Failed. | Passed. | Passed. |
| Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested | 21 | 21 | - | 21 | - |
| (Pasteurised) | 48 | 44 | 4 | 48 | - |
| Sterilised | 15 | - | - | - | 15 |

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION).

Under the above heading Food Hygiene immediately springs to one's mind. There is absolutely no doubt that during recent years Health Officials, Food manufacturers and traders, together with the general public have become increasingly sensitive to the necessity of producing our daily food safe and clean beyond doubt. The fact that dirty and contaminated food can produce dire results by way of food poisoning outbreaks has been established now for many years. In furtherance of a clean food policy a few important points should be borne in mind, and the following may be of interest.

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION) Contd.....

- (a) The raw materials from which food is prepared (i.e. meats, fats, vegetables etc.,) should be sound and fresh.
- (b) Persons handling food should be clean in person, habits and wearing apparel.
- (c) Premises and equipment where food is prepared should be hygienic and lend themselves to ready cleansing.
- (d) Protection against flies, rodents etc., should be regarded as of primary importance.

Looking back over the past year it was found that complaints have reached the Department concerning food, this is indeed regrettable. The complaints in general usually bring to our notice such things as contraries - small pieces of metal or wood being embedded in the article, mould growth in pies, dirt or sediment in milk bottles - these are amongst the most common. All such complaints are thoroughly investigated and often in discussions with manufacturers etc., which ensue, and the precautions taken by their firms to prevent this sort of thing happening are propounded, it almost makes one wonder how in fact they happen, but happen they do.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparations etc., A table showing the samples taken can be found on page 24.

I cannot stress too strongly upon owners and managers of Food Shops how incumbent upon them it is to keep a regular check on all food stocks, and in particular meat products, pies and other foods prone to deterioration or the growth of mould. The growing practice by retailers of stocking pre-packed foods makes this checking a far greater necessity, as certain of these goods require a reasonably quick sale.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES - SUBJECT TO INSPECTION.

The table below gives a list of food premises with which the Department is concerned.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sausage manufacturers | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Cooked Meats, pies etc., manufacturers | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Ice-Cream Manufacturers | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Ice-Cream Retailers | ... | ... | ... | 190 |
| Ice-Cream Wholesale Depot.. | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Fish Friers | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Fishmongers (excluding fried fish shops) | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Butchers. | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Principal Grocers. | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Bakchouses | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Wholesale grocers and provision warehouses... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Cafes, restaurants | ... | ... | ... | 24 |
| Licensed Houses | ... | ... | ... | 88 |
| Mobile Shops | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Industrial Canteens | ... | ... | ... | 25 |

HOUSING.

This is a very important role - perhaps one of the most important in environmental health considerations, aims and achievements. The removal of worn-out, old, sub-standard houses, which are usually found to be damp, defective in many ways and lacking in sanitary amenities is of major importance.

A Public Enquiry was held during the year on the Huncott Road Numbers 2 and 3 Clearance Areas, comprising some 35 houses in Stourbridge Road and Pleasant Harbour. The Council also decided on two other Clearance Areas comprising 14 houses in Constitution Hill and 12 houses in Rockville Terrace, Mill Street.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work, viz:

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders. | 5 |
| " " Demolition Orders made. | 12 |
| " " houses represented for Closing Orders. | 1 |
| " " Closing Orders made (Whole houses). | 4 |
| " " " " " (part of a building). | Nil |
| " " " " changed to Demolition Orders. | 4 |
| Undertakings not to use house accepted. | 1 |
| " " " to repair house accepted. | Nil |
| No. of houses inspected, Clearance Areas. | 26 |
| " " " represented, Clearance Areas. | 26 |
| No. of houses actually demolished during year. | 15 |
| No. of persons displaced. | 123 |
| Houses repaired. | Nil |

(b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied

| | |
|--|-----|
| After informal action by Local Authority | 158 |
| After formal action by Local Authority | 32 |

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Preliminary Notices Served | ... | ... | ... | 102 |
| Intimation letters sent | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| Statutory Notices served | ... | ... | ... | 26 |

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

No applications were received during the year and consequently no action was called for.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR, 1962.

DWELLING HOUSES.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Roof repairs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83 |
| Chimney stacks repointed/repaired | .. | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Defective Spouting repaired, refixed or new provided | .. | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| House brickwork repointed/repaired | .. | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Wells damp-proofed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Plasterwork repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Firegrates repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Windows repaired, sashcords provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Floors repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Stairs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Woodwork of doors repaired or new doors provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Verandahs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

WASH-HOUSES.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Wash-house roofs repaired | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Wash-house windows and doors repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Wash boiler furnaces repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Spoutings repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

WATER-CLOSETS.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Water-closet brickwork repointed/repaired | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Water-closet roofs repaired | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Water-closets reconstructed | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| New pedestals provided | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Flushing cisterns repaired or new provided | .. | ... | ... | 25 |
| Leaking water-closet joints repaired | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Seats provided | ... | ... | ... | 9 |

DRAINAGE.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Obstructed drains cleared | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| Drains relaid or repaired | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Inspection chambers repaired and/or new covers provided | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

WATER SUPPLY.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| New sinks provided | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Waste pipes repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Burst pipes repaired | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Service pipes renewed | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Water cisterns renewed | ... | ... | ... | 5 |

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS AND
OTHER VISITS.

| | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts) | ... | 993 |
| Water Supply | ... .. | 6 |
| Drain Testing | ... .. | 38 |
| Interview with Owner or Builder | ... .. | 99 |
| Enquiry Inspection. | ... .. | 31 |
| Improvement Grant Inspections | ... .. | 41 |
| Advance on Mortgage Inspections | ... .. | 2 |
| Official Searches re Property | ... .. | 561 |
| Tents, vans, sheds (for human occupation) | ... .. | 1 |
| Common Lodging House Visits | ... .. | 2 |
| Offensive Trades Visits | ... .. | 3 |
| Factory Act (Sanitary Accommodation etc.,) | ... .. | 9 |
| Rodent Control | ... .. | 20 |
| Refuse Disposal | ... .. | 202 |
| Infectious Diseases | ... .. | 4 |
| Places of Entertainment | ... .. | 3 |
| Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection) | ... .. | 1,316 |
| Private Slaughterhouses (Construction) | ... .. | 29 |
| Food Preparing Premises | ... .. | 79 |
| Retail Food Shops | ... .. | 137 |
| Ice-Cream Retailers | ... .. | 44 |
| Ice-Cream Wholesale Depot | ... .. | 2 |
| Tinned Food and other articles of Food Examination | ... .. | 133 |
| Food and Drugs Sampling | ... .. | 83 |
| Licensed Premises | ... .. | 51 |
| Interview in Office | ... .. | 143 |
| Other complaints and miscellaneous visits | ... .. | 509 |
| Keeping of animals | ... .. | 2 |
| Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act) | ... .. | 96 |
| ☆ Licensing Act (Clubs) | ... .. | 29 |
| Shops Act | ... .. | 5 |

☆ Note:

By the operation of new licensing laws an opportunity was extended to the Department to inspect all club premises applying for registration.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the local authority mainly combating the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas, cockroaches etc.,

It is usual to spray infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both "knock-down" and "residual" qualities. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to facilitate the work.

Number of houses disinfested by local authority - 21.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses and they are well kept and ordered, maintaining a reasonably good standard of accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut-Scraper. We have no problem as far as this trade is concerned.

MORTUARY.

During the year 108 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster Hospital.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspection. | Written Notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 10 | 4 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority. | 206 | 7 | 5 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) | - | - | - | - |
| Total: | 216 | 11 | 5 | - |

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

| Particulars. | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|---|--|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred. | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector. | By H.M. Inspector. | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) | | | | | |
| (a) insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| (b) unsuitable or defective | - | 7 | - | 7 | - |
| (c) not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL: | - | 7 | - | 7 | - |

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

During the year a sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee met representatives of the management of a large industrial concern, informally, to discuss measures for industrial noise reduction at the plant concerned.

RODENT CONTROL, PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfection. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfection.

A summary of the work is set out below:-

| <u>RODENT CONTROL</u> <u>PREVENTION OF DAMAGE</u> <u>BY PESTS ACT, 1949.</u> | Local Authority Premises | Dwelling Houses (includ- ing Council Houses) | All other (including Business Premises) | Agricul- tural. |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| No. of properties in local authority's district | 28 | 13232 | 2209 | 7 |
| No. of properties inspected as a result of: | | | | |
| (a) Notification | 1 | 206 | 24 | - |
| (b) Survey under the Act | 4 | 28 | - | 4 |
| (c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) | - | - | 58 | - |
| No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by (a) Rats - Major | - | - | - | - |
| Minor | 5 | 162 | 55 | - |
| (b) Mice - Major | - | - | - | - |
| Minor | - | 46 | 38 | - |
| No. of infested properties treated by local authority | 5 | 208 | 78 | - |
| Total treatments carried out including re-treatments | 42 | 292 | 627 | - |
| No. of "Block" Control Schemes carried out | 78 | | | |

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that animals, birds and fish offered for sale shall be on suitable premises, fed and watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises ... 7

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Progress in achievements for cleaner air has been confined to improvements in industrial plant. Several were effected during the year which resulted in some further reduction of industrial smoke.

We have not, as yet, decided on making any part of the Borough a smoke control area. Nevertheless, the battle which is being waged for the air we breathe to be free from pollutants may be slow, but positive, and the removal of smoke from the atmosphere a definite aim.

Perhaps a clearer or more scientific verdict on sulphur dioxide in combustion as a contaminant would be helpful in any denunciation of atmospheric pollution.

New Furnaces.

Four notifications of the installation of new furnaces were received.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

Now in operation is the standard smoke filter and volumetric equipment, stationed in the Public Health Department Offices in the centre of the town, from which daily recordings are taken.

A trial period of some six months subsequent to a visit by one of D.S.I.R's scientific officers proved that the site chosen was satisfactory. A monthly return of the results from this apparatus is sent to Warren Spring Laboratories.

RAINFALL.

| Month | Inches | | Rainfall | |
|-----------|--------|-------|----------------------------|---------|
| | 1961 | 1962 | for past ten years Year | Inches. |
| January | 2.05 | 2.78 | | |
| February | 2.34 | .68 | | |
| March | .04 | 1.48 | 1953 | 22.29 |
| April | 4.14 | 2.48 | 1954 | 27.27 |
| May | 1.26 | 1.42 | 1955 | 20.90 |
| June | .93 | .26 | 1956 | 22.40 |
| July | 1.54 | 2.98 | 1957 | 28.05 |
| August | 2.17 | 4.51 | 1958 | 28.90 |
| September | 1.39 | 2.27 | 1959 | 24.56 |
| October | 2.57 | .41 | 1960 | 37.08 |
| November | 1.36 | 1.88 | 1961 | 22.73 |
| December | 2.94 | 1.64 | 1962 | 22.79 |
| Total: | 22.73 | 22.79 | Average | 25.69 |

PUBLIC CLEANSING. REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

In my Report for 1961, I drew particular attention to the fact that our tipping land was fast "running out" and by the end of last September this prophesy was fulfilled. For future policy the Council agreed to dispose of the Town's refuse by way of a refuse separation and incineration plant. This of course takes time to build and for the time being another small area of tipping land was found at Puxton, which at least gives us a "breather". The work of salvage recovery continues to be carried on at the Hoobrook Depot, this of necessity means that supervisory work is now required at two places - Hoobrook and Puxton. In order to attenuate the life of this site for tipping, the maximum amount of sorting and recovery is being done especially as regards bulky articles such as cardboard, metal drums, tins etc.,

In January a further complete analysis of the Town's refuse was made, which showed that our refuse could be described as "normal". In the main throughout the year a weekly collection of refuse and salvage has been maintained. The following is a list of vehicles and equipment used by the Department.

- 5 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 S.D. Chelsea type side loading Refuse Freighter.
- 1 Bedford. " " " "(used as a spare)
- 1 Bedford covered vehicle for salvage.
- 1 Morris dropside tipping lorry.
- 1 Morris Van (used by Foreman).
- 1 Brayloader Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press.
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.

We have disposed of during the year our baled waste paper, baled scrap and metal, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from revenue accruing from the sale of this material we are fortunate in being able to be completely rid of it, especially during the present crucial period.

| | | | |
|---|---|-----|----------------|
| ★ | The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1962 was ... | ... | £38,088 |
| ✱ | The income was... | ... | 4,519 |
| | The net cost being | ... | <u>£33,569</u> |

- ✱ Financial year ended 31st March, 1963. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Total number of loads of refuse removed | ... | ... | 6,073 |
| Total number of loads of salvage removed | ... | ... | 1,797 |
| Closet pans emptied | ... | ... | 1,456 |
| Loads of night soil tipped. | ... | ... | 52 |
| Loads tipped at Worcester Road | ... | ... | 6,073 |

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1962.

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

| Materials. | Tons. | Cwts. | Qrs. | £. | s. | d. |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|------|--------|-----|-----|
| Baled Waste Paper | 461 | 17 | 1 | 3,620 | 18. | 0. |
| Baled Destructor Scrap . | 59 | 15 | 0 | 391 | 6 | 11. |
| Cullet (Broken Glass) .. | 22 | 9 | 2 | 42 | 9 | 2. |
| Bottles and Jars | - | - | - | 2 | 0 | 0. |
| Light Scrap Iron..... | 52 | 19 | 0 | 158 | 17 | 0. |
| Total ... | 597 | 0 | 3 | £4,215 | 11 | 1. |

